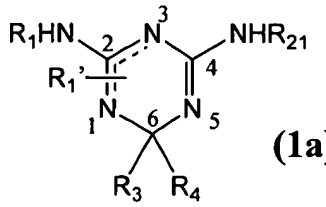
Amendments to the Claims

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A dihydrotriazine compound represented by the formula (1a):



(1a)

wherein R_1 represents

(i) a phenyl group or a phenylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, a cyano group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} haloalkyl group, a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} haloalkoxy group, a C_{3-6} cycloalkyloxy group, a C_{1-7} alkanoyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{2-7} haloalkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{7-11} aryloxycarbonyl group, a C_{4-7} cycloalkyloxycarbonyl group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylamino group, di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-7} alkanoylamino group, a cyclic amino group, a C_{2-7} alkylaminocarbonyl group, a mercapto group, a sulfonic acid group, a sulfonamido group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylthio group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyloxy group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, or a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonylamino group, (ii) a naphthyl group or a naphthylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, (iii) a heterocyclic group, a heterocyclic alkyl group or a heterocyclic aminoalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituents(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, ~~(iv) an optionally substituted alkyl group of 1 to 16 carbon atoms, the substituent(s) being the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, or (v)~~ or (iv) a cycloalkyl group or a cycloalkyl-alkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above;

R_1' represents a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring;

R_{21} represents an optionally substituted alkyl group of 7 to 16 carbon atoms, the substituent(s) being the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above;

R_3 and R_4 represent that R_3 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and R_4 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; and

the dashed line indicates that the position of a double bond is either between 1 and 2 or between 2 and 3,

or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is a phenyl group or a phenylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, methyl, trifluoromethyl and methoxy; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,

or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

22. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 2-phenylethyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, methyl, trifluoromethyl and methoxy; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,

or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

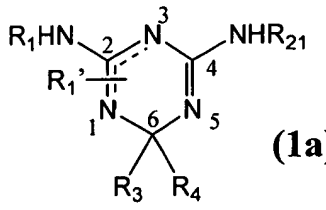
23. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is phenyl, chlorophenyl, benzyl, methylbenzyl, methoxybenzyl, hydroxybenzyl, chlorobenzyl, dichlorobenzyl or 2-phenylethyl; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

24. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 is methylbenzyl; R_{21} is n-octyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

25. (Previously presented) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 18, which is 4-octylamino-3,6-dihydro-6,6-dimethyl-2-(4'-methylbenzylamino)-1,3,5-triazine gluconate,
or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

26. (Cancelled)

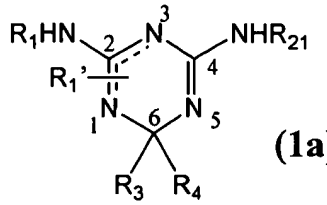
27. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A dihydrotriazine compound represented by formula (1a):



(1a)

~~according to claim 18,~~ wherein R_1 is ~~n-butyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl or~~ cyclohexylmethyl; R_{21} is n-heptyl or n-octyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring, or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

28. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A dihydrotriazine compound represented by formula (1a):



(1a)

~~according to claim 18,~~ wherein R_1 is a naphthyl group, a heterocyclic group or a heterocyclic alkyl group; R_{21} is n-octyl, n-nonyl, n-decyl, n-undecyl or n-dodecyl; R_3 and R_4 are each methyl; and R_1' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring,

or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

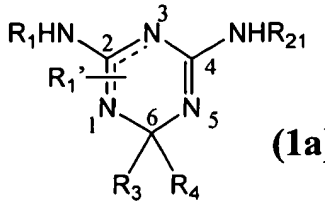
29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously presented) An external bactericidal/disinfectant agent which comprises, as an active ingredient, the dihydrotriazine compound as defined in claim 18, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.

31-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) ~~A sterilizing/disinfecting method,~~ A method for sterilizing/disinfecting, which comprises applying externally an effective amount of the dihydrotriazine compound represented by the formula

(1a):



(1a)

wherein R_1 represents

(i) a phenyl group or a phenylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, a cyano group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} haloalkyl group, a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} haloalkoxy group, a C_{3-6} cycloalkyloxy group, a C_{1-7} alkanoyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{2-7} haloalkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{7-11} aryloxycarbonyl group, a C_{4-7} cycloalkyloxycarbonyl group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylamino group, di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-7} alkanoylamino group, a cyclic amino group, a C_{2-7} alkylaminocarbonyl group, a mercapto group, a sulfonic acid group, a sulfonamido group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylthio group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyloxy group, a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, or a C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonylamino group, (ii) a naphthyl group or a naphthylalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, (iii) a heterocyclic group, a heterocyclic alkyl group or a heterocyclic aminoalkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituents(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, (iv) an optionally substituted alkyl group of 1 to 16 carbon atoms, the substituent(s) being the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above, or (v) a cycloalkyl group or a cycloalkyl-alkyl group, each of which is optionally substituted by the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above;

R_1' represents a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring;

R_{21} represents an optionally substituted alkyl group of 7 to 16 carbon atoms, the substituent(s) being the substituent(s) on the phenyl group or phenylalkyl group as defined in (i) above;

R_3 and R_4 represent that R_3 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and R_4 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; and

the dashed line indicates that the position of a double bond is either between 1 and 2 or between 2 and 3,

~~as defined in claim 18,~~ or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, to a wound site, a burn site or a bedsore site, or an operation site before and after operation, a hand or an arm of a medical employee, or sterilizing or disinfecting medical equipments or medical environment in need of sterilization/disinfection.

35. (Previously presented) A method for preparation of an external bactericidal/disinfectant agent, which comprises mixing the dihydrotriazine compound represented by the formula (1a) as defined in claim 18, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

36. (Cancelled)